Economic cost of wheat and rice

†158. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that economic cost of wheat and rice in Food Corporation of India has risen to Rs. 819.85 and Rs. 1076/- per quintal, respectively;

(b) if not, the fact thereof;

(c) whether Government have entrusted the responsibility to Administrative Staff College, Hyderabad to identify the measures to probe and bring down the economic cost; and

(d) if so, the reasons for entrusting the said responsibility to above institute, and the amount of remuneration decided to be paid to the institute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It was decided to engage an independent consultant to study the cost of acquisition and distribution of foodgrains by the FCI, so as to arrive at ways and means for reducing the Economic Cost. After going through detailed proposals of Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad and Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIMA), the assignement has been given to the Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad at a total fee of Rs. 30.50 lakhs.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.